

Perchlorate Treatment Plant Planned


THE CITY Council recently decided to lease a perchlorate treatment facility for the City's Nordstrom well. As many customers will recall, the Nordstrom well was one of three wells turned off earlier this year when extremely low levels of perchlorate were preliminarily detected. While subsequent tests of the well's water, while it was turned off, have had "non-detect" results, the City did not turn the well back on in order to be extra cautious.

However, with the coming high demand for water during the summer months, the City needs the water supplied by the Nordstrom well in order to maintain adequate supplies for our customers. Just in case renewed pumping results in perchlorate at detectable levels, the City is having a treatment plant installed immediately at the Nordstrom well site. The treatment facility will remove perchlorate to below detectable levels and should be operational in early July.

The treatment method chosen is called ion exchange. It works by sending potentially-contaminated water through a vessel containing small plastic resin beads. When perchlorate touches the beads, perchlorate ions, or charged particles, stick to the resin and pick up chloride. Facilities like this have been permitted by the State Department of Health Services to remove contaminants from water in the San Gabriel Valley. Since this is an existing proven and permitted technology, it can be quickly installed in Morgan Hill to increase our water supply in time for the summer season.

Discussions continue between the City, the Water District, the Regional Water Quality Control Board, and Olin Corporation on the operation of a second treatment facility at the Tennant well. This well, which was closed last year, is right across the street from the Olin site.

All Wells Test "Non-Detect" in May

Water supplied by the City of Morgan Hill continues to meet all State and Federal safety standards. The test results received by the City in late May showed "non-detect" readings for every City well. Nonetheless, the City has not turned on the Condit and Dunne wells that had ambiguous results earlier this year. To view the June results for all wells, which were not available at press time, visit the City's website at www.morgan-hill.ca.gov and go to the "What's New" page. 

Article by Anthony Eulo, Assistant To The City Manager, 779-7247 or teulo@ch.morgan-hill.ca.gov

SUMMER FUN AT CITY COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL CENTER

Magic Mike's Fun House

It's magic time! Come see a full production of live music, magic, and circus skills as seen at Art Ala Carte. Show features: Magic Mike; Mr. Miraculo, the skateboarding champion trick juggler; Quiggley the talking dog; and the Funhouse Fly Girlz. Two shows on Friday, August 8 at 3:00 p.m. and at 7:00 p.m. Special advance ticket prices at \$10 children, \$15 adults and \$35 for groups of 4. The shows take place at the Morgan Hill Community Center Playhouse. For information call (408)782-0008 (408-BIG*SHOW).

Summer Family Concert Series

Bring the family, your lawn chairs, a picnic, towels for the kids as they can play in the water feature, and enjoy the free concerts in the new Morgan Hill Community and

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- COMMUNITY CALENDAR & CHANNEL 17 SCHEDULE

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY DEVELOPED

IN AN effort to both focus and further the City's economic development approach, the City Council adopted a new Economic Development Strategy in May. The Strategy aims to better cultivate the local economy in order to ensure that the City has enough revenue to continue providing the services that the community wants – while maintaining the high quality of life that Morgan Hill residents cherish.

The Strategy's Three Goals Are:


GOAL 1: Attract, Retain, and Expand Those Businesses that:

- Create and/or retain quality jobs for Morgan Hill residents.
- Enhance the local economic base by retaining or generating new sales and/or use tax revenue within the community.
- Provide a shopping convenience presently lacking in the community.
- Maintain a diversified local economic base.
- Enhance and/or maintain the community's quality of life.

GOAL 2: Sustain a Financially Healthy and Vibrant Downtown.

GOAL 3: Ensure the Accountability of all Economic Development Partnerships.

In addition to these goals, the Strategy includes a complete list of complementary policies and actions that stem from the goals. (Check the “What’s New” page on the City’s website for the complete version of the Strategy.) City staff is now relying on the Strategy to guide current economic development activities.

One important current activity that was specifically included in the Strategy is issuing a request for proposals (RFP) for potential retail, commercial, residential, and/or mixed use developments in an expanded downtown area. This RFP is being issued currently with proposals due into the City this summer. Please contact the Business Assistance and Housing Services Department at 776-7373 if you desire additional information about this opportunity. 

Article by Garrett Toy, Director of Business Assistance and Housing Services, 776-7373 or babs@cb.morgan-hill.ca.gov

CONSERVE WATER, SAVE MONEY AND HAVE A HEALTHY LAWN


IS IT possible to have a healthy lawn AND conserve water? Surprisingly, the answer is a resounding, “Yes!”

Let's start with a few facts:

- 52% of our home water is used outside
- Most of that is used for watering lawns
- Too much fertilizer (i.e. nitrogen) encourages water-thirsty new growth
- Taller grass keeps your soil more moist (provides more soil surface shading)

So, how can we water our lawns more wisely, conserve water, and save money on our water bill? Here are some tips on lawn watering that not only will make you part of the “Water Conservation Team,” but can also help decrease unhealthy runoff that pollutes natural creeks and the ocean.

- ***Stick to a Lean Watering Schedule.*** Water your lawn once every three days during the summer. This promotes deeper root growth and healthier turf. The most effective time to water is early in the morning or at night because less water will evaporate. Water when grass does not spring back after being stepped on. Test for water penetration by watering an area for 15 minutes. Push a shovel into the soil and tilt it forward. If the soil isn’t wet three inches down, continue watering until it is.
- ***Keep Your Grass Taller.*** Mow your lawn at a taller mowing height. Taller grass has deeper roots, and thus, a lower tendency to wilt. It also provides shading of the soil surface.
- ***Aerate Your Lawn.*** This improves water penetration and encourages deep roots.
- ***Cut Back on Fertilizer.*** The nitrogen in fertilizers encourages new growth, and all new growth tends to be extra-thirsty.
- ***Allow Clippings to Drop on the Lawn.*** Remove the mower collection bag. By “grasscycling,” you will need less water, because the mulch reduces moisture loss due to evaporation. Grass clippings make a natural fertilizer that can provide most of the nutrients needed by a lawn if the clippings are small enough to decompose quickly without forming mats on top of the living grass.
- ***Remove only a Third of the Leaf Blade at Any One Time.*** Removing more can be stressful to the plant and increase pest and disease problems.
- ***Adjust sprinklers so that they spray the grass, not on walls, driveways, and sidewalks.*** Over-watering can wash pesticides and fertilizers into the storm drains, which means that runoff water with these substances is flowing into our creeks where it can harm the wildlife habitat. If water runs off the grass when sprinkling, reduce watering time.

All residents of Santa Clara County are invited to contact the Santa Clara Valley Water District at 800-548-1882 to schedule a free Water-Wise House Call. During the house call, a technician will evaluate the efficiency of your irrigation system, and will provide you with a personalized irrigation schedule. Additionally, the technician will identify irrigation leaks and broken or mismatched sprinkler heads. 

Article by Sylvia Sorci and Emi Totschinger, 776-7337 or emit@cb.morgan-hill.ca.gov

Murphy Ranch Townhomes Opening Soon

FOR THE past year, Morgan Hill has witnessed the construction of a new lovely housing development, the Murphy Ranch Townhomes, on the corner of Dunne and Butterfield. Developed by First Community Housing with partial funding provided by the City's Redevelopment Agency, this 7.2 acre development includes two tot-lots, a solar-heated swimming pool and a community building which has a lounge, a computer/study lab, the management leasing offices and rest rooms. There are also extensively landscaped common areas and each unit includes a private back yard. The townhomes emphasize energy efficient materials and exceed California's strict Title 24 energy requirements by 25%. In keeping with the "green" theme, each resident will also receive free EcoPasses to encourage use of the VTA bus and light rail systems.

First Community Housing and the John Stewart Company, management agent for the development, announced that for one week, beginning on May 5th, they would offer applications to everyone who expressed an interest in living at Murphy Ranch and who appeared to meet basic qualifications. More than 500 phone calls were received on the first day! By the end of the week, more than 1,500 applications had been requested and mailed out and 1,000 families qualified for the interview lottery process by returning completed applications by the deadline.

Initial rents for the 2-, 3-, and 4-bedroom townhouse apartments at Murphy Ranch will range from \$383 to \$1,449 per month. The apartments will be made available to qualifying families earning between 20% and 60% of the area median income. The first 62 units of this unique "affordable" housing project will be ready for occupancy in September. A final phase of 38 apartments will begin construction in May of 2004.

Article by Bill Newkirk, Business Assistance and Housing Analyst, 776-7373, Newkirkb@ch.morgan-hill.ca.gov



These lovely townhomes will soon be occupied.



"SUMMER FUN" FROM PAGE 1

Cultural Center Amphitheater. These concerts are sponsored by The Morgan Hill Times, Super Taqueria Restaurants, Morgan Hill Engineering, and the City of Morgan Hill.

Mark these dates for your Sunday afternoon enjoyment:

- **Sunday, July 13th**, Dave Barrett's 'School of the Blues' featuring John Garcia (from 4-6 p.m.)
- **Sunday, August 17th**, The Dave Younger Band (from 4-6 p.m.)

Classes Camps & More

Call the Recreation and Community Services Division and request our summer activity guide, or better yet, stop by and pick one up while you visit the Community and Cultural Center. Offerings you will find include:

New Explorers Class for children 4- 5 yrs. Class will play with alphabet, numbers, colors, printing, art and nature studies. A head start for those entering kindergarten.

Morgan Hill S.T.A.R. (Summer Theatre Arts Repertory) Gavilan College Community Education and the City of Morgan Hill presents the S.T.A.R. satellite program in Morgan Hill including acting, singing, dancing and improvisation for talented, energetic STAR kids! Participants will present the musical: Give My Regards To Broadway.

Enrichment Programs

A joint effort of the Morgan Hill Unified School District & the City of Morgan Hill Recreation and Community Services Division to provide the following classes: Making Literature Come Alive with Art; Printmaking; Poetry; and Native Plants of Santa Clara County.

Jr. Golf, Drawing, Kid's Boot Camp, Jewelry Making, Dance, Photography, Soccer Camps, Baseball Camps, Summer Playground Program and Savesitters are a sample of the many offerings this summer. Register online at www.reclink.com, or come by the office at 17000 Monterey Road. For further information call the Recreation and Community Services Division at 782-0008.

Article by Julie Spier, Recreation Manager, 779-7271, Spierj@ch.morgan-hill.ca.gov

MORGAN HILL COMMUNITY GUIDE

CHANNEL 17 PROGRAMMING

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

REGULAR SESSION:	7/2	7PM LIVE
	7/3	NOON REPLAY
	7/5	8PM REPLAY
	7/6	NOON REPLAY
REGULAR SESSION:	7/16	7PM LIVE
	7/17	NOON REPLAY
	7/19	8PM REPLAY
	7/20	NOON REPLAY
REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY SESSION	7/23	7PM LIVE
	7/24	NOON REPLAY
	7/26	8PM REPLAY
	7/27	NOON REPLAY

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS

REGULAR SESSION:	7/8	7PM LIVE
	7/9	NOON REPLAY
	7/12	NOON REPLAY
	7/13	8PM REPLAY
REGULAR SESSION:	7/22	7PM LIVE
	7/23	NOON REPLAY
	7/26	NOON REPLAY
	27	8PM REPLAY

MAGIC MIKE'S FUN HOUSE AT ART ALA CARTE 9:00AM & 4:30PM DAILY
7PM FRIDAY

TIPS ON CHOOSING A COLLEGE 10:00AM & 5:00PM DAILY
7:00PM FRIDAY

FUGITIVE WATCH- 10:25AM & 5:55PM DAILY
THE BAY AREA'S MOST WANTED 7:25PM FRIDAY

COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR

Independence Day • July 4th

Call 779-3387 for more information or visit www.mhidi.com

Farmer's Market • Every Saturday

Call 779-9444 for more information.

Friday Night Music Series • Every Friday

Call 779-9444 for more information.

Composting Workshop • July 9th

Attendees of Morgan Hill Home Composting workshops discover the benefits of gardening using their own compost. The next class is scheduled for Wednesday, July 9th, from 7:00PM-9:00PM at the YMCA. To register for this free workshop, call the Home Composting Education Program at 918-4640.

CITY ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor Dennis Kennedy	779-7259
Mayor Pro Tempore Hedy L. Chang	778-0511
Councilmember Larry Carr	779-9622
Councilmember Greg Sellers	778-2370
Councilmember Steve Tate	779-6992
City Clerk Irma Torrez	779-7259
City Treasurer Michael Roorda	778-3653

CITY EXECUTIVE STAFF

City Manager J. Edward Tewes
City Attorney Helene L. Leichter
Assistant To The City Manager Melissa Stevenson Dile
Assistant To The City Manager Anthony Eulo
Business Assistance/Housing Services Director Garrett Toy
Community Development Director David Bischoff
Council Services and Records Manager Irma Torrez
Finance Director Jack Dilles
Human Resources Director Mary Kaye Fisher
Police Chief Gerald T. Galvin
Public Works Director Jim Ashcraft
Recreation and Community Services Manager Julie Spier

CONTACTING YOUR CITY

Hours: Monday - Friday, 8AM to 5PM

Address: 17555 Peak Avenue, Morgan Hill, CA 95037

Animal Control	776-7300
Building Inspection	779-7241
Business Assist. & Housing Services	776-7373
City Clerk	779-7259
City Manager	779-7271
Community & Cultural Center	782-0008
Environmental Programs	779-7247
Finance	779-7237
Fire Department (County Fire)	378-4010
Job Hotline	779-7276
Planning: Land Use / Zoning	779-7247
Police Administration	776-7315
Public Works	776-7337
Recreation & Community Services	782-0008
Water	779-7221
Volunteer Programs	779-7278
City Hall Fax Number	779-3117

City Website: <http://www.morgan-hill.ca.gov>

CONTACT THE EDITOR

Questions or comments about City Visions are welcome.

Contact Editor Anthony Eulo at 779-7247 or environ@ch.morgan-hill.ca.gov. City Visions is published monthly by the City of Morgan Hill.

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